

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Lieberose Troop Training Grounds

25X1

EVALUATION

25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 7 October 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. During the period from 26 to 30 August 1952, artillery units stationed at the Lieberose troop training grounds engaged in increased firing practice at the Peitz firing range. Specifically, the following observations were made:

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At 6:30 p.m. on 26 August. Trucks [redacted] each towing a 122-mm field howitzer and occupied by 1 officer and 5 men, and trucks [redacted] each towing a 76.2-mm field gun, and trucks [redacted] each carrying 20 soldiers with field equipment, departed in the direction of Lieberose and returned to the camp at 7:30 p.m. on 30 August.

At 7:30 a.m. on 27 August. Trucks / [redacted] each towing a 76.2-mm field gun, and trucks [redacted] each towing a 120-mm mortar and carrying 10 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, left the camp in the direction of Lieberose. The column had not returned on 30 August.

At 6:30 p.m. on 28 August. A column of 2 trucks [redacted] each carrying 20 men, and 4 half-track vehicles mounting an artillery piece of about 80-mm, without muzzle brake or protective shield, entered the camp from the Peitz firing range. The upper part of the gun barrels rested on a bipod fixed to the motor hub. The column also included 6 BA-64 armored scout cars and 6 sidecar motorcycles.

At 6 p.m. on 29 August. Trucks [redacted] mounting AA machine guns and carrying troops, trucks [redacted] each towing a 57-mm AT gun, and trucks [redacted] carrying troops entered the camp. Training activity in the vicinity of Camp Jamnitz during the period of observation and during the preceding weeks were normal and included combat practice at platoon level, close-order drill, firing practice with live ammunition with rifles and machine guns, gun drill with AT guns and mortars, athletic exercises and theoretical instruction.

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2. On 29 August, [redacted] for about two weeks, the troops from Camp Jamlitz were engaged in intensive firing practice with guns and rocket launchers at the training grounds. Troops fired with rifles and machine guns at practice targets just north of the Lieberose railroad station, west of the railroad line. Seven 76.2-mm field guns which were covered with camouflage tarpaulins were emplaced between Lieberose and Peitz, west of the railroad line. Numerous radio trucks and trucks, some of them camouflaged, stood nearby. Winter clothing and new bicycles were unloaded from a boxcar at the Lieberose railroad station on 29 August. *

3. [redacted] at the end of August [redacted] was stationed in Camp Jamlitz. The low wooden buildings were weatherproofed and new winterized quarters were under construction. [redacted] the camp would also be occupied in winter. **

* [redacted] Comment. [redacted] firing practice by artillery units in the area of the Lieberose troop training grounds. According to the present [redacted] observed 25X1 in paragraph 1 which rest the camp, belonged to the 7th Gds Mecz Div stationed in Lieberose.

25X1 Almost all motor vehicles seen in traffic from and to the camp belong to the 7th Gds Mecz Div and thus confirm the division as being stationed in Lieberose until 30 August.

* [redacted] Comment. [redacted] Other reports have also indicated that the troop training grounds would be permanently occupied in winter, but no permanent winter occupation of the troop training grounds has been previously observed. However, elements of the 7th Gds Mecz Div have rotated for several-day firing practices during the winter months, starting in January in previous years.

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